

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A bill handling machine for handling bills, comprising:
 - a money receiving/paying section for receiving and paying bills;
 - a plurality of bill storing boxes for storing bills received from said money receiving/paying section or bills to be paid from said money receiving/paying section, said plurality of bill storing boxes including a pushing plate for depressing bills stored therein, respectively;
 - a transport path for linking said money receiving/paying section to said storing boxes and for transporting bills;
 - a storing box detecting unit for detecting an attaching state or a detaching state of at least one of the plurality of bill storing boxes;
 - a pushing plate detecting unit for detecting a position of said pushing plate; and
 - a control section, wherein:
 - when said storing box detecting unit detects that said at least one of the plurality of storage boxes is in the attaching state, said control section causes said pushing plate in said at least one of the plurality of storage boxes to move by a driving motor; and
 - said pushing plate detecting unit detects a position of said pushing plate for determining the amount of the bills stored in said at least one of the plurality of storage boxes.
 - ~~said storing boxes respectively include pushing plates to push bills stored therein and~~
 - ~~said control section drives said pushing plate of each said storing box to detect an amount of bills stored therein.~~

2. (Currently Amended) The [[A]] bill handling machine according to claim 1,
wherein:

said pushing plate detecting unit includes further comprising a few-bill detecting section
to detect a state of said at least one of the plurality of storage boxes~~said storing box~~ in which
when said at least one of the plurality of storage boxes~~said storing box~~ contains a small amount
of bills, wherein and

when said few-bill detecting section detects said pushing plate of said at least one of the
plurality of storage boxes~~said storing box~~, said control section reports~~notifies a higher level unit~~
of an amount of bills according to bills remaining in said at least one of the plurality of storage
boxes~~said storing box~~.

3. (Currently Amended) The [[A]] bill handling machine according to claim 1,
wherein:

said pushing plate detecting unit includes a full state ~~further comprising a full bill~~
detecting section to detect a state of said at least one of the plurality of storage boxes~~said storing~~
~~box~~ in which said at least one of the plurality of storage boxes~~said storing box~~ is full of bills,
and

~~wherein~~ when said full bill ~~full state~~ detecting section detects said pushing plate of said at
least one of the plurality of storage boxes~~said storing box~~, said control section reports~~notifies a~~
higher level unit of an amount of bills according to the state in which said at least one of the
plurality of storage boxes~~said storing box~~ is full of bills.

4. (Currently Amended) The [[A]] bill handling machine according to claim 1,
wherein: further comprising:

said pushing plate detecting unit includes a few-bill detecting section to detect a state of
said at least one of the plurality of storage boxes~~said storing box in which~~ when said at least one
of the plurality of storage boxes~~said storing box~~ contains a small amount of bills; and a full state
detecting section to detect a state of said at least one of the plurality of storage boxes~~said storing~~
~~box in which~~ when said at least one of the plurality of storage boxes~~said storing box~~ is full of
bills,

~~when neither said few-bill detecting section and nor said full-bill detecting section detects~~
~~said pushing plate of said storing box, said control section adds an amount of bills according to a~~
~~small amount of bills to an amount of bills according to the state in which said storing box is full~~
~~of bills to obtain a sum of the amounts and divides the sum by two to report a result of the~~
~~division as an amount of bills and~~

said control section:

notifies a higher level unit of a first amount of bills corresponding to the position of said
few-bill detecting section as an amount of bills stored in said at least one of the plurality of
storage boxes, when said few-bill detecting section detects said pushing plate;

notifies said higher level unit of a second amount of bills corresponding to the position of
said full state detecting section as an amount of bills stored in said at least one of the plurality of
storage boxes, when said full state detecting section detects said pushing plate; and

notifies said higher level unit of a third amount of bills corresponding to a half of sum of
said first and second amount of bills as an amount of bills stored in said at least one of the

plurality of storage boxes to, when neither said few-bill detecting section nor said full state detecting section detects said pushing plate.

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Currently Amended) The [[A]] bill handling machine according to claim [[6]]1, further comprising:

a key input section to enable input by an operator;

a higher-level line connecting section connected to a higher-level unit for displaying a guidance; wherein:

when said at least one of the plurality of storage boxes detecting unit detects that said at least one of the plurality of storage boxes is in the attaching state, said control section determines whether or not the number of bills stored in the said at least one of the plurality of storage boxes is inputted in said key input section, and

when said control section determines that the number of bills is not inputted, said higher-level unit displays a guidance for prompting the operator to input the number of bills to said key input section through said higher-level line connecting section ~~wherein said control section determines whether or not the storing box information acquired from said storing box includes the number of bills.~~

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Currently Amended) The ~~[[A]]~~ bill handling machine according to claim ~~[[7]]~~1, further comprising a key input section in which an operator inputs a value corresponding to an amount of bills by operating keys;

wherein said control section compares the value indicating the amount of bills inputted by said key input ~~the number of bills thus inputted and acquired from said storing box~~ with the amount of bills ~~obtained~~ determined by driving said pushing plate.

10. (Currently Amended) The ~~[[A]]~~ bill handling machine according to claim 9, wherein when a result of the comparison is within a predetermined range, said control section updates ~~replaces~~ the amount of bills ~~stored in~~ controlled by the bill handling machine for said at least one of the plurality of storage boxes ~~said storing box to the number of bills acquired from said storing box~~ with the value indicating the amount of bills inputted by said key input.

11. (Currently Amended) The ~~[[A]]~~ bill handling machine according to claim 9, wherein when a result of the comparison is beyond a predetermined range, said control section controls a display ~~[[s]]~~ for indicating an instruction to input again a value indicating the amount of bills ~~the number of bills to be acquired from said storing box.~~

12. (Currently Amended) The ~~[[A]]~~ bill handling machine according to claim ~~[[1]]~~21, wherein ~~in response to an event that part of or all of said storing boxes are re-set to said bill handling machine,~~ when said control section determines the reinstallation of said at least one of the plurality of storage boxes, said control section ~~acquires from each said storing box~~ ~~[[,]]~~ identifier information identifying said reinstalled storing box and determines whether or not the

acquired storing box identifier information ~~matches~~ differs from storing box identifier information beforehand previously registered to said at least one of the plurality of storage boxes ~~said storing box~~.

13. (Currently Amended) The ~~[[A]]~~ bill handling machine according to claim 12, wherein the storing box identifier information identifying said reinstalled storing box and the storing box identifier information previously registered ~~acquired from said storing box by said control section~~ includes type information indicating a type of said storing box or bill-type information indicating a type of bills stored in said at least one of the plurality of storage boxes ~~said storing box~~.

14. (Currently Amended) A bill handling machine, comprising:
a money receiving/paying unit for receiving or for ejecting a bill;
a judge section for detecting ~~determining~~ a bill received from said money receiving/paying unit;
a temporary storing section for temporarily storing the bill detected ~~determined~~ by said judge section;

a plurality of storing boxes for storing bills received from said money receiving/paying unit or bills to be paid from said money receiving/paying unit; and

a storing box detecting unit for detecting an attaching/detaching state of at least one of the plurality of bill storing boxes;

wherein when said storing box detecting unit detects that said at least one of the plurality of storage boxes is in the attaching state, a control section ~~for controlling~~ controls a pushing

section disposed in said storing box to push bills and thereby calculating an amount of bills stored in said storing box.

15. (Currently Amended) The ~~[[A]]~~ bill handling machine according to claim 14, wherein said pushing section of said at least one of the plurality of storage boxes~~said storing box~~ comprises a pushing plate which travels in a forward direction and in a reverse direction in said storing box to depress bills storing in said at least one of the plurality of storage boxes~~said storing box~~.

16. (Currently Amended) The ~~[[A]]~~ bill handling machine according to claim 14, further comprising a key input section in which an operator inputs an amount of bills by operating keys;

wherein said control section ~~acquires a number of bills inputted from said storing box and~~ compares the ~~number~~amount of bills inputted by said key input with the amount of bills calculated ~~before by using said pushing section.~~

17. (Currently Amended) The ~~[[A]]~~ bill handling machine according to claim 16, wherein when said control section determines that a result of the comparison is within a predetermined range, said control section ~~updates~~notifies a higher level unit of the ~~number~~amount of bills ~~in said storing box to the number of bills acquired from said storing box.~~

18. (Withdrawn) A bill handling method for use with a bill handling machine for handling bills, comprising the following steps of:

confirming a state in which a door of the bill handling machine is closed;
confirming a state in which storing boxes to store bills are set to the bill handling machine;
acquiring a number of bills inputted from each of the storing boxes;
calculating an amount of bills storing in each said storing box; and
comparing the number of bills acquired by said acquiring step with the number of bills calculated by said calculating step.

19. (Withdrawn) A bill handling method according to claim 18, further comprising the step of updating, when a result of the comparison is within a predetermined range, a balance of said each storing box to the number of bills acquired by said acquiring step.

20. (Withdrawn) A bill handling method according to claim 18, wherein said step of calculating the amount of bills further comprising the steps of:

driving a pushing plate disposed in said each storing box in a forward direction of said storing box;

detecting a pressure of the bills stored in said each storing box;

driving the pushing plate in a reverse direction of said each storing box;

detecting release of the pushing of the bills; and

detecting a position of the pushing plate.

21. (New) The bill handling machine according to claim 1,

wherein when said storing box detecting unit detects the detaching state of said at least one of the plurality of storage and the attaching state of a corresponding storing box, said control section determines that the storing box is reinstalled.

22. (New) The bill handling machine according to claim 1,
wherein said control section controls a motor to move said pushing plate in a forward direction of pushing bills stored in said at least one of the plurality of storage boxes and then when pressure to the bills is sensed, said control section controls the motor to move the pushing plate in a reverse direction.

23. (New) The bill handling machine according to claim 1, further comprising a door open/close sensor for detecting an open/close state of a door of the bill handling machine;
wherein when said door open/close sensor detects that the door is in the close state, the motor is able to move said pushing plate.

24. (New) The bill handling machine according to claim 14,
wherein said pushing section pushes the bills and then releases pressure to the bills.

25. (New) A method for detecting amount of bills in a bill handling machine capable of attaching/detaching a plurality of storing boxes for storing bills, comprising:
detecting that at least one of the plurality of storing boxes is attached;
moving a pushing section disposed in said at least one of the plurality of storing boxes in a forward direction after detection by said first step;

detecting pressure by said pushing section and the bills due to movement by said moving step;

moving said pushing section in a reverse direction opposite the forward direction, when the pressure is detected by said detecting step; and

detecting the amount of bills stored in said at least one of the plurality of storing boxes on the basis of a position of said pushing section after the step of moving said pushing section in the reverse direction is performed.

26. (New) The method according to claim 25, further comprising:

detecting that said at least one of the plurality of storing boxes is detached; and

determining that a reinstallation is completed, when the step of detecting that the storing boxes are attached is performed after the step of detecting that said at least one of the plurality of storing boxes is detached.